Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Meeting Log Play Yard Zipper Access Task Group

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.18 Task Group Meeting on Play Yard Zipper Access

LOCATION: Teleconference

DATE: August 3, 2022, 2:00pm, ET

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Frederick deGrano (ESMC)

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Frederick deGrano (ESMC), Stephen Harsanyi (ESHF), Carlos Torres (ESMC),

Suad Wanna-Nakamura (HSPP)

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Anna Carter, Task Group Lead. Contact ASTM for the attendee list.

MEETING SUMMARY:

Ms. Carter started the meeting by presenting the revised draft standard language for fastening mechanisms for play yard structural soft goods. The task group intends to address through the proposed requirements risk of head entrapment associated with zippers or other fastening mechanisms being accessed by children from within the play yard or otherwise becoming partially undone and expanding an opening large enough for head entrapment.

The initial draft requirements included mechanisms to release the zipper such as follows: requiring a tool to release, requiring a double action to release, and requiring a single action with at least 10 lbf. to release. The task group discussed removing a statement defining utilization of a tool to release a fastening mechanism and determined the requirement for double action already applies to this type of mechanism. Next, the task group discussed how the draft standards affect current products that utilize snaps to secure the play yard's soft goods. The task group determined that disconnecting a single snap along a series of snaps may create a hazardous opening that could lead to head entrapment. Task group members will add supplementary language to address these types of fastening mechanisms.

Lastly, the task group discussed the proposed requirements defining accessibility of fastening mechanisms to the play yard occupant. The draft standard proposes tests involving hanging a string/chain from the top rail with a length based on anthropometric data and a finger probe adopted from toy standard. The hanging string/chain determines the distance a play yard occupant can reach over the top rail and down the external side of the play yard, and the finger probe tests the play yard occupant's ability to access the fastening mechanisms. Task group members will continue to refine the proposed language, adding clarity to the test requirements.

Next Steps:

The task group will continue to work on the draft language and requirements pertaining to play yard fastening mechanisms and accessibility. The task group will reconvene at a later date to be determined.